Morrison Trail Improvement Proposal

Background

The Morrison Trail consists of two loops – Morrison and Rimrock – that total 10.8 miles. The trail is classified as Trail Class 1 – minimally developed – and is open to hiking and bicycling. The trail is considered one of the more popular trails on the District, with some users utilizing the Morrison Boat-To Campground for overnight camping. Portions of the trail are quite rugged, while other portions are highly developed (for example, the first mile has been graveled).

This project proposes to add two trail segments to the existing trail. Trail "A" is a new 1.8 mile loop segment that would be added to the Rimrock Loop (the new trail link is located approximately 1.5 miles from the trailhead). Trail "B" is a new 1.6 mile trail segment that will begin at Kinzua Beach and intersect the Rimrock Loop south of Campbell Run in the vicinity of a trail re-route that was approved last year.

Desired Condition

The desired condition is a sustainable trail, which has few water crossings, adequate drainage, average grade no greater than 10% with frequent grade reversals for drainage and which lies gently on the land with side slopes that allow for cross drainage and future maintenance.

Proposed Action

The proposed action was designed to enhance visitor experience on the Morrision Trail System.

1. Construction of two new trail segments (approximately 3.30 miles total): Installation of the new alignment would be built to Trail Class 2 standards – the trail tread will be 18-24" and the target grade will be 5-10%. The trail construction will involve minimal tree cutting (no trees larger than 8" will be cut) and will require two to three stream crossings, one of which may require a small bridge/puncheon.

Appendix A. Project Map

The map below shows the proposed new trail links (heavy black line) to the Morrison Trail.

